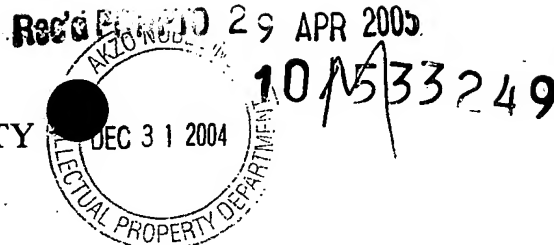
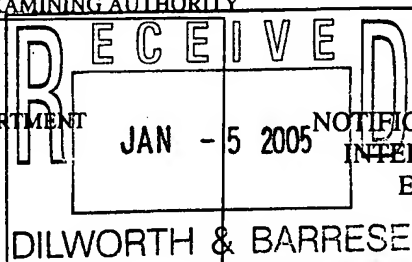


PATENT COOPERATION TREATY



From the
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINING AUTHORITY

To:
RICHARD P. FENNELLY
AKZO NOBEL INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
7 LIVINGSTONE AVENUE
DOBBS FERRY, NY 10522-3408



PCT

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY
EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Rule 71.1)

Date of Mailing
(day/month/year)

29 DEC 2004

Applicant's or agent's file reference

ACA6281WO

1321-17PCT

IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION

International application No.

PCT/US03/34351

International filing date (day/month/year)

28 October 2003 (28.10.2003)

Priority date (day/month/year)

31 October 2002 (31.10.2002)

Applicant

AKZO NOBEL N.V.

1. The applicant is hereby notified that this International Preliminary Examining Authority transmits herewith the international preliminary examination report and its annexes, if any, established on the international application.
2. A copy of the report and its annexes, if any, is being transmitted to the International Bureau for communication to all the elected Offices.
3. Where required by any of the elected Offices, the International Bureau will prepare an English translation of the report (but not of any annexes) and will transmit such translation to those Offices.
4. **REMINDER**

The applicant must enter the national phase before each elected Office by performing certain acts (filing translations and paying national fees) within 30 months from the priority date (or later in some Offices)(Article 39(1))(see also the reminder sent by the International Bureau with Form PCT/IB/301).

Where a translation of the international application must be furnished to an elected Office, that translation must contain a translation of any annexes to the international preliminary examination report. It is the applicant's responsibility to prepare and furnish such translation directly to each elected Office concerned.

For further details on the applicable time limits and requirements of the elected Offices, see Volume II of the PCT Applicant's Guide.

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US

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